



House of Representatives

File No. 699

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

(Reprint of File No. 618)

House Bill No. 5117
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 3, 2013

**AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED PENALTIES FOR FAILING TO
STOP FOR SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-300f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

3 (a) The operator of [any] a motor vehicle shall immediately bring
4 [his] the motor vehicle to a stop not less than ten feet from a location
5 [having a school crossing guard] on any highway or private road
6 [when such] where a school crossing guard is on duty when the school
7 crossing guard specifically directs [him] the operator to do so. Any
8 motor vehicle so stopped for a school crossing guard shall not proceed
9 until [there is specific direction from] the school crossing guard
10 specifically directs the operator to do so.

11 (b) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (a) of this
12 section shall be fined [not less than one hundred dollars nor more than
13 five hundred] four hundred fifty dollars for the first offense and, for
14 each subsequent offense, not less than five hundred dollars nor more

15 than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or
16 both.

17 (c) Upon receipt of a written report from any school crossing guard
18 specifying the license plate number, color and type of any motor
19 vehicle observed by such school crossing guard violating any
20 provision of subsection (a) of this section and the date, approximate
21 time and location of such violation, a police officer may issue a written
22 warning or summons to the owner of such vehicle.

| | | |
|---|-----------------|---------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2013 | 14-300f |

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 14 \$ | FY 15 \$ |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Judicial Dept. | GF - Potential Revenue Gain | 1,300 | 1,300 |

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a potential minimal revenue gain by fixing the fine for a motor vehicle operator's first-time failure to stop for a school crossing guard at \$450 instead of a range of \$100-\$500. In FY 12 there were four offenses with total fine revenue of \$490 (ranging from \$100-\$240). If these violations were all fines at the \$450 amount, the revenue gain would have been approximately \$1,300 each year.

House "A" makes clarifying changes that do not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

Sources: Judicial Department Offenses and Revenue Database

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5117 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED PENALTIES FOR FAILING TO STOP FOR SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the minimum and decreases the maximum fine for a motor vehicle operator's first-time failure to stop for a school crossing guard, by fixing the fine at \$450. Under current law, the fine is \$100 to \$500. By law, unchanged by the bill, the penalty for a subsequent violation is a fine of \$500 to \$1,000, imprisonment for up to 30 days, or both.

Under the bill, if a school crossing guard observes a motorist violating the law and files a written report with police, the police officer may issue a written warning or summons to the vehicle owner. The report must specify the vehicle color, type, and license plate number, and the date, approximate time, and location of the violation.

By law, when a school crossing guard on a highway or private road directs a motor vehicle operator to stop, the operator must stop at least 10 feet from the guard and wait for the guard to direct him or her to continue.

*House Amendment "A" allows, rather than requires, police to issue a warning or summons when notified of a violation by a school crossing guard, and makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/19/2013)

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 43 Nay 1 (04/12/2013)